

2005 Report of Accomplishments (July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005)

King Conservation District



Most Significant Natural Resource Accomplishment

- As part of the District's Marine Shoreline Property Owner Technical Assistance Program, worked in partnership with the City of Burien, U.S. ACOE, WDFW, and King County Department of Natural Resources to implement a marine shoreline bulkhead removal and beach restoration project at Seahurst Park.



Volunteers work in exchange for native plants to use on a local wetland enhancement project.

Mission of the King Conservation District

- Promoting the sustainable uses of natural resources through responsible stewardship

Natural Resource Improvements in 2005 - Summary

- Documented the implementation of small farm management practices, including 9,760 feet of exclusion and cross fencing; 41 acres excluded from livestock access; 28 manure compost bins or storage systems; 8 acres of nutrient management; 33.5 acres of prescribed grazing; 3.3 acres of confinement area; 9 roof water diversion systems; and 82 acres of upland wildlife habitat protection.
- Installed 2.19 acres (95,575 square feet) of stream and/or wetland buffer to protect water quality.

Water Quality Implementation

- Installed 9 stream and/or wetland buffer enhancement projects by planting 2,830 linear feet of stream and 24,825 square feet of wetland buffer. All stream buffer projects occurred on stream or wetlands with documented or presumed salmonid use.
- Installed 1 stream bank stabilization.
- Installed 1 livestock crossing bridge.

Basic Funding

- Contributed District portion of rent on NRCS office lease. This provides general office space for District personnel as well as meeting rooms for the numerous inter-governmental and one-on-one cooperator meetings in which the District participates.

Local Funding

- Utilized the District special assessment to fund 48 salmon recovery and/or natural resource conservation grant projects in the amount of \$3,070,736.
- Utilized the District special assessment to fund District operations in the amount of \$ 606,841. This funding was used in part to match WCC basic funding, water quality, and engineering grants in the amount of \$154,929.

Puget Sound/Water Quality

- Propagated 2,250 new native emergent plants and 5,600 new native trees and shrubs for local stream, wetland, and/or estuarine enhancement projects.
- Provided 2,472 native plants and design/planting plan assistance to 8 landowner/resident implemented stream, wetland and/or estuarine enhancement projects.
- Provided 2,888 native plants to support implementation of 9 stream and wetland enhancement projects coordinated by the District.

Professional Engineering

- Completed a retrofitting project on the Drainage District No. 7 Pump Station. Project replaced an outdated pump used to drain low lying farm land by installing a modern fish-friendly pump, screen and pump house structure. The new equipment protects fish which reside in the numerous lateral line ditches while maintaining productive agriculture land.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Initiated 4 CREP plans, nearing completion on one of these plans.
- Distributed \$16,136.50 in WCC CREP maintenance funds.

Livestock/Dairy

- Continued working with local dairies on certification of nutrient management plans. To date, 32 of 39 licensed dairies in King County are certified.
- Used cost share funding to install 2 buried mainlines for improved pasture production and nutrient management.

Watershed Conservation/Habitat Restoration

- Conducted annual native plant sale (2 events), including the processing 446 orders for a total of over 38,000 native plants sold.
- Replaced 1 culvert to improve fish passage in the Lake Sammamish Watershed.
- Initiated a Marine Shoreline Property Owner Technical Assistance Program.
- Also see reported items under Water Quality Implementation, Puget Sound/Water Quality, and Local Funding.

Small Farm Programs

- Completed 80 new farm plans for livestock owners and/or crop producers to improve and protect water quality.
- Planned 34 individual Best Management Practices not included in a farm plan for livestock owners and/or crop producers.
- Completed 9 stream and/or wetland buffer enhancement plans for livestock owners.
- Conducted sampling and analysis of soils on 29 livestock and/or crop producer farms.
- Connected 53 residents to local sources of composted manure through the Manure Share Program.

Community Collaboration & Coordination

- Worked with King County on updating GMA Critical Areas Ordinance to ensure farmers were treated fairly and sound science was used in the development of the new code.
- Participated in King/Pierce/Thurston Local Working Group on distribution of Federal Farm Bill Program funds.
- Supported the development of WRIA 7, WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 salmon recovery plans through the 3 local King County Watershed Forums.
- Hosted WACD NW Area Annual Meeting

Marketing/Outreach & Education

- Facilitated 8 land and water stewardship workshops for 98 livestock owners; conducted 5 well attended on-farm BMP tours; and 3 farm BMP presentations to local livestock/agriculture organizations.
- Produced programming aired on local access Television. Programming included the Canon Envirothon program, the District stream and wetland restoration program, and a public hearing on the District assessment proposal.
- Marketed District programs in District newsletter and at 10 local fairs and festivals.
- Provided 530 general soil and water conservation technical Assists, including the distribution of printed materials.
- Connected 491 volunteers to District projects on which volunteers donated 1,691 hours of service.

Washington Conservation Districts assisting land managers with their conservation choices



Livestock owners tour a local farm to see land and water conservation practices in place.